

NEW YORK HERALD.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

THEATRE OPERA, Broadway—GEMMA—ALMA—MARIUS—SYMPHONY.

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THE DISUNION GAME OF THE SOUTHERN DEMOCRACY—A MAGNIFICENT PROGRAMME FOR THE EXTENSION OF SLAVERY AND A GREAT INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF NIGGERS.

Many of our readers have doubtless supposed that Governor Wise's opinion, to wit: that the election of Mr. Buchanan to the Presidency would increase the price of stout, healthy Virginia niggers from one thousand to five thousand dollars a head, was an enthusiastic stretch of the imagination; but we think that we have at length arrived at the Southern democratic programme, by which a very large increase in the price of Virginia niggers will undoubtedly be realized. We should not be surprised if, in less than three years, they were to run up to full five thousand dollars a head.

First, we refer our readers to the disunion movements of the late meeting of certain Southern democratic Governors at Raleigh, N. C., to a debate on Union or disunion between Gen. Houston and Gen. Rusk in Texas, and to the letter of Robert J. Walker, addressed to the fears of our Northern commercial classes, all of which articles will be found elsewhere in these columns, and all under the same head, for they are all of a piece. All of these Southern secession movements, discussions, disunion speeches and threatening letters, are directed to the one common object of frightening the North into submission; but we must now admit that the magnificent slavery programme of the South will fully account for every expedient of intimidation they have adopted.

The whole game of the Southern disunion democracy in this campaign may be resolved into two simple objects—First, to divide the North, and secondly to frighten the North. The division of the opposition elements of the North was effected with the nomination of Mr. Fillmore, a purely Southern nomination; and thus his influence, and the influence of the Northern opposition faction drawn off into his support, were secured for the accomplishment of the second object. Mr. Fillmore's speech at Albany, a few days after his return from Europe, shows conclusively that the Southern managers of his nomination did not mistake the pliable instrument selected for their work. He promptly declared that the South would and should secede from the Union if Fremont was elected to the Presidency. Since that day the organs and stumblers of the Buffalo candidate have cheerfully done all the dirty work required by the Southern democracy in the North, in order to defeat the only candidate and party sufficiently popular and formidable, in a fair fight, to sweep the North from Maine to San Francisco.

The late Pennsylvania election, especially in the city of Philadelphia, next illustrates the success of the second branch of this disunion game of the Southern democracy—the old trick of frightening and intimidating the commercial interests of the North into a surrender at discretion. By a system of terrorism, under which the constitution has become a dead letter in the South, the Fremont party have been rigorously denied the liberty of speech and of the press in fourteen States; and our democratic Southern committees of safety have followed this up with the cry that Fremont is a sectional candidate, an abolition candidate—that the South are excluded from his ticket—and that they can have no alternative than disunion, should he be elected by Northern votes. Treacherous, unconstitutional, mean and dastardly as this branch of the game of intimidation has been, it has still had its effect among our Northern commercial classes and their dependents. Thousands of silly men have been made to believe, or made to preach, the preposterous nonsense that Fremont's election would be the end of the Union, and the end of our trade with the South. "Let them laugh who win," and we doubt not that already Gov. Wise, Mr. Toombs, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Keitt, Mr. Sillidell, Mr. Jeff. Davis, Mr. Atchison, and all concerned, are laughing in their sleeves at their unexpected success with this old stale trick of Southern rights, Southern wrongs, secession and disunion.

We say this old stale trick; for all this Southern democratic bravado of disunion is nothing but the old trick of dividing and frightening the North, so as to slip in and secure the spoils and the government for another term of four years. But the programme of the Southern leaders of the democracy in this campaign is on a scale so grand and comprehensive for the extension and perpetuation of slavery, as almost to excuse, in a party sense, even the basest devices of democratic warfare to the fullest extent to which they have been carried. The ruffianism at Washington, the ruffianism of Kansas, the terrorism which reigns supreme all over the South, the desperate hue and cry of disunion all over the North, the bribery and corruption and ballot stuffing at the polls, will be looked upon as but trifling offences against law, decency, morality and justice, should they culminate in the success of the great Southern democratic programme of 1856.

What is this programme? It was broadly foreshadowed at Cincinnati; but it has since been more fully developed. It may be briefly reduced to the following splendid scheme for the extension of slavery and an increase in the price of niggers. The admission of

1. Kansas as a slave State.
2. Nicaragua as a slave State.
3. Cuba as a slave State.
4. Another slave State from Texas.
5. The half of California as a slave State.
6. The whole of Mexico.

The election of Mr. Buchanan and a democratic Congress to back him, cannot possibly end in any other way than the admission of Kansas as a slave State at the first session of the next Congress. The game in Nicaragua is equally clear. The Cincinnati platform expressly sympathized with the Walker movement. Mr. Soule, Mr. Buchanan's right hand man, to Ostend, lately went down, as a sort of volunteer democratic ambassador, to Nicaragua, and the first fruit of his diplomacy appears in a decree from President Walker re-establishing slavery, which had stood abolished in that State for forty years. Under Mr. Buchanan it will be easy, with the advice and influence of Mr. Soule, to secure the admission of Nicaragua as a slave State.

Cuba comes next. Nicaragua will be the rendezvous, and San Juan will be the Varna for the descent upon Cuba, after the plan of the descent of the allies upon the Crimea. Mr. Soule returned from Spain to write a book upon his mission, disclosing everything connected with it. He contracted with a New York publisher to print the book; he wrote the book; but with the nomination of Mr. Buchanan he suppressed the book. And why? For the all-sufficient reason that the election of Mr. Buchanan would revive the Ostend policy, and bring it into an experimental policy of "wrestling Cuba from Spain, if we have the power."

With Nicaragua and Cuba in our possession,

Mexico falls next into the Union as a matter of course. What is there to prevent it, should we succeed in "wrestling Cuba from Spain?" There, however, is the rub. There this magnificent Southern programme may be tumbled about their ears like a lordly castle built upon the quicksands of the sea shore. The attempt to "wrest Cuba from Spain" may very possibly result in a war with England, France and Spain combined. Otherwise, with the election of Mr. Buchanan, we see nothing to prevent the speedy acquisition by the Southern spoils democracy of an absolute and overshadowing supremacy in the government, to the extent of ten or fifteen additional slave States to the confederacy. Nor will this be all. As a necessary consequence, the demands of Kansas (perhaps Nebraska, too), and Cuba, Nicaragua and Mexico for slave labor, will not only result in raising the price of Virginia niggers to four or five thousand dollars a head, but it must also result in the necessity of re-establishing that benign and humane institution for niggers, the African slave trade.

Such is the meaning of this democratic and Fillmore hue and cry of "abolition candidate," "sectional party," "Southern equality," "secession" and "disunion." It is all nothing more than the old trick to divide and frighten the North into submission. Thus far, the Southern terrorists have the chances of the game; and with Mr. Buchanan in the White House, and with such deep players as Jefferson Davis, Atchison, Toombs, Sillidell and Soule around him, we may depend upon it they will provide ample markets for their niggers, and ample securities for the future. The letter of Robert J. Walker is but a trick—the decree of Gen. William Walker, establishing slavery in Nicaragua develops the whole game.

Impending Decisive Battle in Nicaragua.

When the steamship Texas, which arrived in this port on Saturday last, left San Juan del Norte, on the 6th inst., a grand and decisive battle was daily expected between the combined forces of the Central American States and those under the command of General Walker. It was to be a conflict of arms on the result of which hung the destiny of Nicaragua, and, it may be, of Central America. It would decide whether the new principles of social and political government, including the probable introduction of slavery, implanted in that region by Walker and his co-adventurers, were to be fostered and developed, or whether Nicaragua should revert back to its Spanish-Indian dynasties. That battle has, in all human probability, already taken place. The issues which hung upon its result may have been already decided. The sword, that great arbiter of the destinies of nations, may have carved out a new career to progress and civilization for the citizens of one or all of the Central American States; or else, the ray of light that was allowed to flash in upon and illumine their gloomy condition may have been only transient, and may now be forever extinguished. Among the never ending wars waged between hostile peoples since humanity commenced to exist, there have been in all not twelve decisive battles—battles which affected the progress of the race and of civilization. The one impending, or that has already taken place in Nicaragua—though of but small consideration in view of the forces engaged, is of immense importance in view of its effects on the destinies of the Spanish-American people, and of the beautiful countries which they inhabit, and may be, in later ages, set down as one of the decisive battles of the world.

The tactics followed by General Walker in the present campaign appears to be an eminently prudent one. His force is small in comparison to that by which he is assailed. He cannot muster, at the very utmost, more than twelve hundred men, and with them he has to meet and defeat an army of two or three thousand at least. His policy, therefore, was evidently not to risk any skirmishing engagements, but to concentrate his whole force on a given point and strike one final and conclusive blow. The enemy made a demonstration on the town of Rivas, and the Walker garrison vacated it. They also occupied Leon under similar circumstances. They marched into Managua and the Walker garrison marched out and fell back upon Masaya, about twelve miles northwest of the city of Granada, the capital of Walker's government and the headquarters of his army. And by the latest intelligence brought by courier to the latter city, the troops had evacuated Masaya, and were marching into Granada, where the enemy was immediately expected. There Walker was prepared to meet them, and to risk everything on the issue of a grand battle. His only motive for wishing to postpone that last appeal to arms for a few days longer, was, to give time for the arrival of a battery of howitzers, mortars, shells and ammunition from New York and San Francisco, and these munitions of war he was to have received within a few days after the departure of the Texas from San Juan. So that, as we have before said, the decisive battle of Granada has probably already taken place, and the issues which hung upon it are at length decided.

We were led to believe, from circumstances that recently came to our knowledge, that England would recognize Walker's government if he succeeded in sustaining himself and demolishing his opponents. She keeps a large naval force in the harbor of San Juan, and if it were her policy, she might easily strengthen the hands of Walker's adversaries to a degree which would render him powerless before them. The fact that she does not do so, is of itself *prima facie* evidence that she does not want to see his government overthrown. But there is also positive evidence to the same point. Admiral Eschsch, the officer in command of the English naval forces there, has declared that his government would throw no obstacles in the way of the establishment of Walker's sway; and the same sentiment has been also expressed by Capt. Tarleton, of her Britannic Majesty's ship Eurydice. What effect the introduction of slavery will have remains to be seen. It can perhaps be imagined. England desired that a firm and responsible government should be established in Nicaragua, and had no objection to that being done even by Americans, because she knew the immense value of the trade that would be opened up with Central America under favorable circumstances. Whether she would or would not view so unconcernedly a movement towards annexation with the United States, is not a subject important to be considered at this time; but the slavery question is one of moment, and will attract attention.

Meanwhile, however, good feeling exists between our citizens and the British authorities at San Juan. This was shown on the occasion of the Texas running aground in the harbor. The boats of the English men-of-war in port rendered the most active assistance in getting her off; and having finally succeeded, the crew and passengers of the Texas, as she steamed past the Englishmen, saluted them with rounds of hearty

cheers. In fact the *entente cordiale* seems to be perfect; and all that is now needed to put a seal upon the present state of good feeling and to see Walker's government firmly established, is the complete defeat of the forces of the Central American States now opposed to him, and the organization of the new regime on a proper and modern basis. It is understood that in that event the English government is ready to recognize the new government of Nicaragua; and as Walker has just ratified the treaty of commerce negotiated some years since between the Chamorro government and the United States, and subsequently ratified by Rivas, there will be then no impediment in the way of Nicaragua's peace and prosperity. That such may be the case must be the wish of all who have at heart the regeneration of Central America and the progress of civilization; but all depends on the decisive battle which has probably already been fought near Masaya or Granada.

THE OPERATIC WAR IN THE OUTSKIRTS.—PHILADELPHIA AND BOSTON IN THE FIELD.—The great Operatic war increases in vigor and intensity. We have published, day after day, the bulletins from the rival camps, the soul-stirring despatches of Field Marshal Maretzek, and the cool, statistical matter of fact, but still interesting pronouncements of First Consul Phalen. Sometimes a volunteer, who has been admitted into the sacred mysteries behind the scenes, throws a volunteer shot which ought to crush the opposition. But no, each party comes up fresh for the conflict, smiling under the terrific punishment, and returning it *con amore*. All the young ladies in Fifth avenue gaze on the combat with the same delight that Gibbon tells us was felt by the Roman codfish aristocracy when the lions of Nero made their dinner off the friends of St. Paul.

The war has now spread to the outskirts, and we find those enterprising, but rather slow provincial cities, Philadelphia and Boston, waking up to the positive necessity of Italian opera, and charitably rejoicing at the imbroglio which deprives the metropolis of its most elegant amusement. The Boston *Atlas*, in an article which we transfer to our news columns, is particularly jubilant, and thanks "Phalen and Company" for the series of representations commenced by Maretzek last night, at the Boston theatre. The Philadelphians are really and positively roused. They have nearly finished their Opera house—the American Academy of Music they call it—and have officially announced that they are waiting for a tenant. This house, we understand, will seat nearly four thousand people, and it has been almost as costly as our Academy. It will be leased, as we are told, for seven thousand dollars per annum, with five hundred stockholders' admissions. At the Boston theatre, one of the finest opera houses in the world, the rent is about ten thousand dollars, with three hundred stockholders as "dead heads." They are obliged to pay, however, for secured seats.

This skirmishing on the outskirts is an interesting feature in the Operatic war, and will not be without its effect here. Meanwhile, let the Bostonians and the Philadelphians rejoice while they have a good thing, and support it as it deserves; otherwise their jubilee will be of short duration. In the meanwhile, let the young ladies and the old ladies in the Fifth avenue and elsewhere hope on, hope ever. Let the dry goods dealers and opera cloak vendors in Broadway, take heart of grace. New York is the only city that will support the Opera for a season of respectable length—that is, if it can be supported at all; and so New York will have the Opera *coûte que coûte*.

THE CONSTITUTION NULLIFIED IN VIRGINIA.—We published yesterday and the day before, several letters from Portsmouth, Va., giving an account of the raising of a Fremont flag, which was cut down by order of the City Council of the place. Our correspondents considered the ordinance of the Council an outrageous interference with the liberty of the citizen, and so do we.

This journal has never countenanced attacks on the property of Southern men, and has sustained the South in the establishment of rules for the protection of that very peculiar property. Laws and ordinances, which are not needed in the North, and would not be tolerated here, may be required by the first principles of self-preservation in the South; and it is manifestly absurd for people here either to insist upon uniformity of rules for North and South, or to claim superiority over the South in consequence of the greater number of restraints on personal liberty there.

At the same time, it is absurd and unjust for the authorities of Southern cities or Southern States to enlarge the scope of these restraints, and to begin to see an assault upon their safety, or a threat against their prosperity, in every political movement that does not originate with themselves. Governor Wise, in warning John M. Botts that he was forgetting the laws of treason, and openly hinting that he would present him before a grand jury, only succeeded in setting on foot a belief that he (the Governor himself) was crazy. Judge Thompson, arguing from the bench that not to vote for Buchanan was to deserve imprisonment in the penitentiary, achieved scarcely less distinction, and even earned a rebuke from the Virginia press. Just so, the Common Council of Portsmouth have proved that they are alike ignorant of the rights of American citizens under the constitution, and the true nature of the issues involved in the present canvass; and the only object which they will attain will be to spread a conviction that they are a narrow-minded, stupid body, and that if they fairly represent Portsmouth the cause of that port's decline can easily be understood.

THE LATE VISITATION AT FORT HAMILTON.—In another column will be found a list of subscriptions, amounting to \$614, which has been received from New Orleans by the Treasurer of the Fort Hamilton Relief Fund. The generous donors could not have been aware of the fact that a similar subscription, which was tendered by the people of Norfolk to the Fort Hamilton sufferers, had been respectfully declined, on the ground that enough money had been collected to meet the claims created by the ravages of the late epidemic. These manifestations of good feeling on the part of the citizens of Norfolk and New Orleans prove the truth of the old adage, that money given in charity is invested at good interest. The promptness with which New York has always responded to the calls of benevolence from other cities, now meets with a ready and liberal return when an opportunity offers for the display of the grateful feelings which such conduct has evoked. This is as it should be. It is by the interchange of kindly offices on occasions of this sort that we can best give a practical contradiction to the assertion that the people of the North and South have no common bonds of sympathy.

THE LATEST NEWS.

BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

New Arrival of the North American.

Quebec, Oct. 20.—10 P. M.
The steamer North American had not been signalled at the River du Loup, at half past 9 o'clock this evening.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20, 1856.
IMPORTANT POLITICAL MOVEMENTS.—THE PLAN TO FRIGHTEN THE NORTH WILL BE RUINED.

The President and the Secretary of War are back at their posts. The President very nicely avoided the charge that a return overland trip would cause him, by taking passage in the Wash.

The Secretary of War comes back full of politics and pluck. He has visited West Point, the Arsenal at Springfield, Massachusetts, and other points at the North. He found all right wherever he went. His tour was a very quiet, gentlemanly one. Since his return I learn that he has transferred nearly all, if not quite all, the troops from the forts on the Virginia coast to other stations. Strange and startling as it may appear, I am told that this has been done for political effect. It is to enable the spoils democracy of Virginia, by an apparent popular insurrection, to seize those ports about a week before the election, as an indication—an earnest indeed—of what Gov. Wise, Jeff. Davis, Gov. Adams, of South Carolina, and their followers intend to do if Fremont shall be elected to the Presidency. It is a trick to frighten the North. It is to clinch the nail on the head in Pennsylvania and New York in November, and frighten the commercial classes into an abandonment of Fremont and ensure the success of Buchanan. It is not intended to go any further. The mere movement, from past experience, will be enough.

This plan was to have been submitted to the fifteen Southern Governors, who had been requested by Gov. Wise to meet at Raleigh, N. C. Only three Governors—Adams, of South Carolina; Wise, of Virginia, and Johnson, of Georgia—met. I am not posted up as to their proceedings. All I know is, that they were to gether one day only.

This insurrectionary scheme is somewhat similar to the one which forced the passage of the Army bill in the late extra session. When the republicans refused to pass that bill without the Kansas proviso, the Secretary of War discharged all hands at the Arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Springfield and Pittsburg, and intended to discharge every man connected with the army upon the charity of the world. Thirty-two or two thousand men out of employment frightened the republicans into submission at once, and the Army bill became a law.

Let us now see what effect this new and extraordinary movement will have on the doughfaces of the Central States.

Mr. Guthrie has appointed John S. Newton, of Pennsylvania, Superintendent of Construction of the new custom House ordered to be constructed at that place.

Half a million of dollars has been paid out of the Treasury since Saturday noon on account of government expenses.

The democrats are rejoicing at their late triumphs, which are considered in political circles here as settling the Presidential election in favor of Buchanan.

Funerary arrangements for the late Mr. Fremont are being made at Washington. He is to be buried in the Congressional cemetery.

Hon. Robert J. Walker has visited Wheeland, and solicited a Cabinet appointment. Hon. Lemuel Dale Evans has returned to Washington.

The Secretary of War has returned from his visit to West Point.

The Secretary of the Navy's health is much improved, and he is expected here from North Carolina at the end of the month.

The steamer Washburn will leave Annapolis this week for New York, and thence join the Home Squadron.

A great number of invitations to a supper at the White House this evening have been sent to the officers of the Volunteer Regiment of the District, and to other prominent participants in the reception of the President on his return to this city, and to distinguished public functionaries.

Fusion Meeting in Philadelphia.—A GREAT EXCITEMENT.—INFLAMMATORY SPEECHES BY KNOW NOTHINGS.—THE KEYSTONE CLUB—SYMPTOMS OF A FREE FIGHT—ORDER FINALLY RESTORED AND DELEGATES APPOINTED TO HARRISBURG.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 20, 1856.
A meeting comprising all the elements of opposition to the Cincinnati platform was held this evening, in the rooms of the Central Republican Association, for the purpose of nominating delegates to the Union Electoral Convention to be held at Harrisburg to-morrow.

Mr. Robert J. Martin was called to the chair, and G. W. Reed and Geo. Connel were appointed Secretaries.

The Chairman stated the object of the meeting, and amidst interruption, declared the necessity of concentrating all the elements of opposition to slavery extension and the Cincinnati platform.

Mr. GEORGE W. REED then arose on behalf of the Fillmore men, and in a few minutes had so inflamed the minds of all present by appeals to their passions that it became immediately evident the meeting could not effect the object for which it was called.

A number of the Keystone Club had obtained admittance into the hall and assisted the Fillmore leaders and their noisy crew in breaking up the meeting. Mr. Reed presented a set of resolutions which not merely required all present to repudiate union but also to advocate Mr. Fillmore's claims.

The Fillmore frequently requested Mr. Reed to moderate his expressions and confine himself to the objects of the call, but without effect.

A GENTLEMAN addressed the audience on the other side, and was followed by Mr. DUTTON, who made a peculiarly inflammatory speech.

The Fillmore ruled the resolutions out of order amidst a scene of the wildest excitement, the interlopers nearly initiating a free fight.